

REMEMBER • CRAIG • BOYD

DEADLY CLASS™



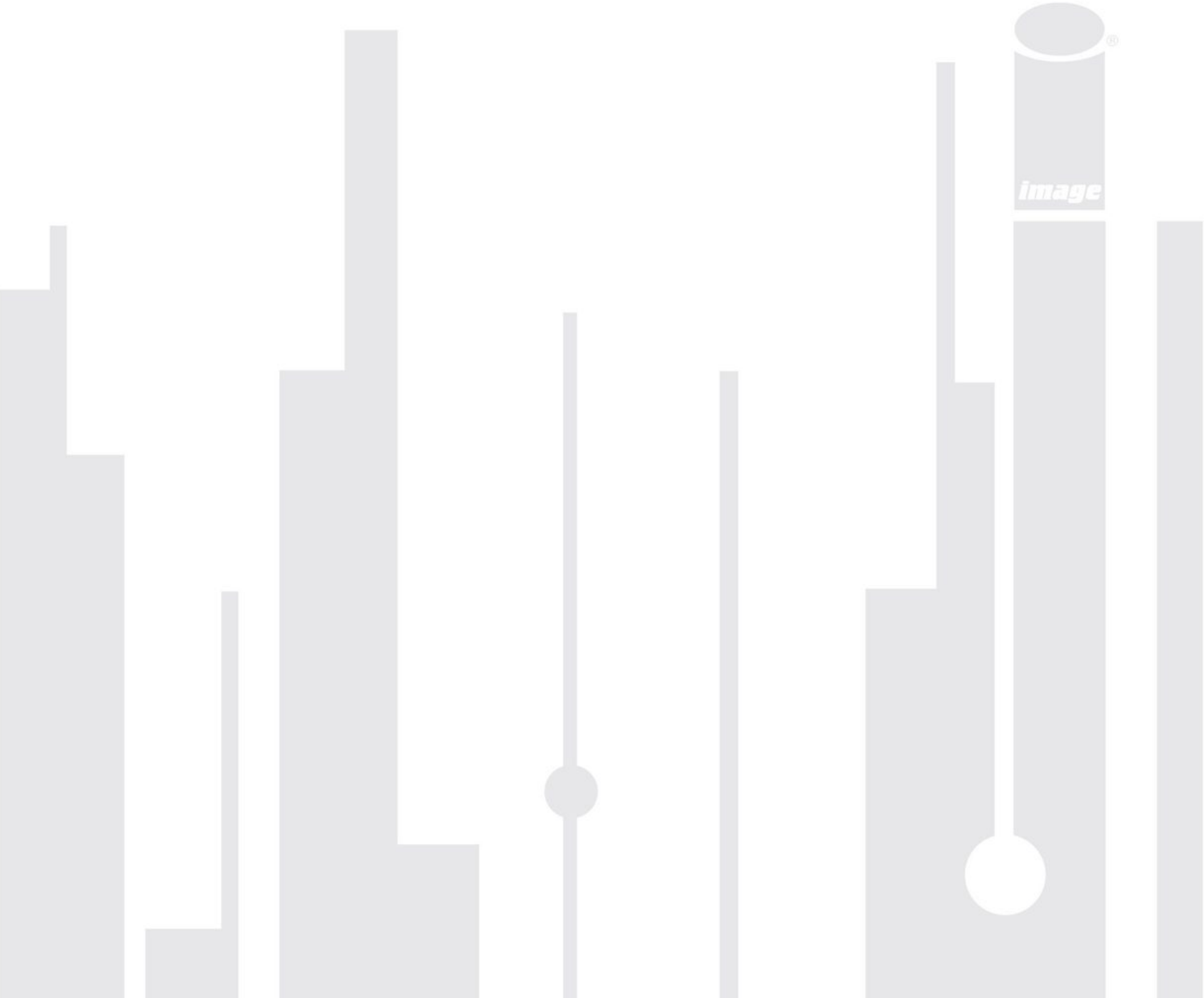
1988
#25

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QUAN'S FATHER, BAO, BELIEVED THAT DURING THE VIETNAM WAR THE ONLY INTELLIGENT THING THE AMERICANS DID WAS TO RUN.

HE TAUGHT HIS SON THAT THE DISEASE OF "HONOR" HAD NEARLY BROUGHT THE US TO ITS KNEES.

"A FOOL WILL LOSE EVERYTHING FOR THE SAKE OF HONOR, QUAN.

"HONOR IS A DISEASE OF THE MIND, CLOUDING REASON. IT MAKES YOU THINK YOUR ACTIONS ARE SIGNIFICANT.

"BUT WE ARE NOT PRECIOUS SNOWFLAKES..."

FUCK!

"...ONLY SMALL AND PETTY THINGS LIVING SHORT AND UNIMPORTANT LIVES."

"HONOR IS A DRUG TO MEDICATE US FROM THE PAIN OF THAT OBVIOUS TRUTH."

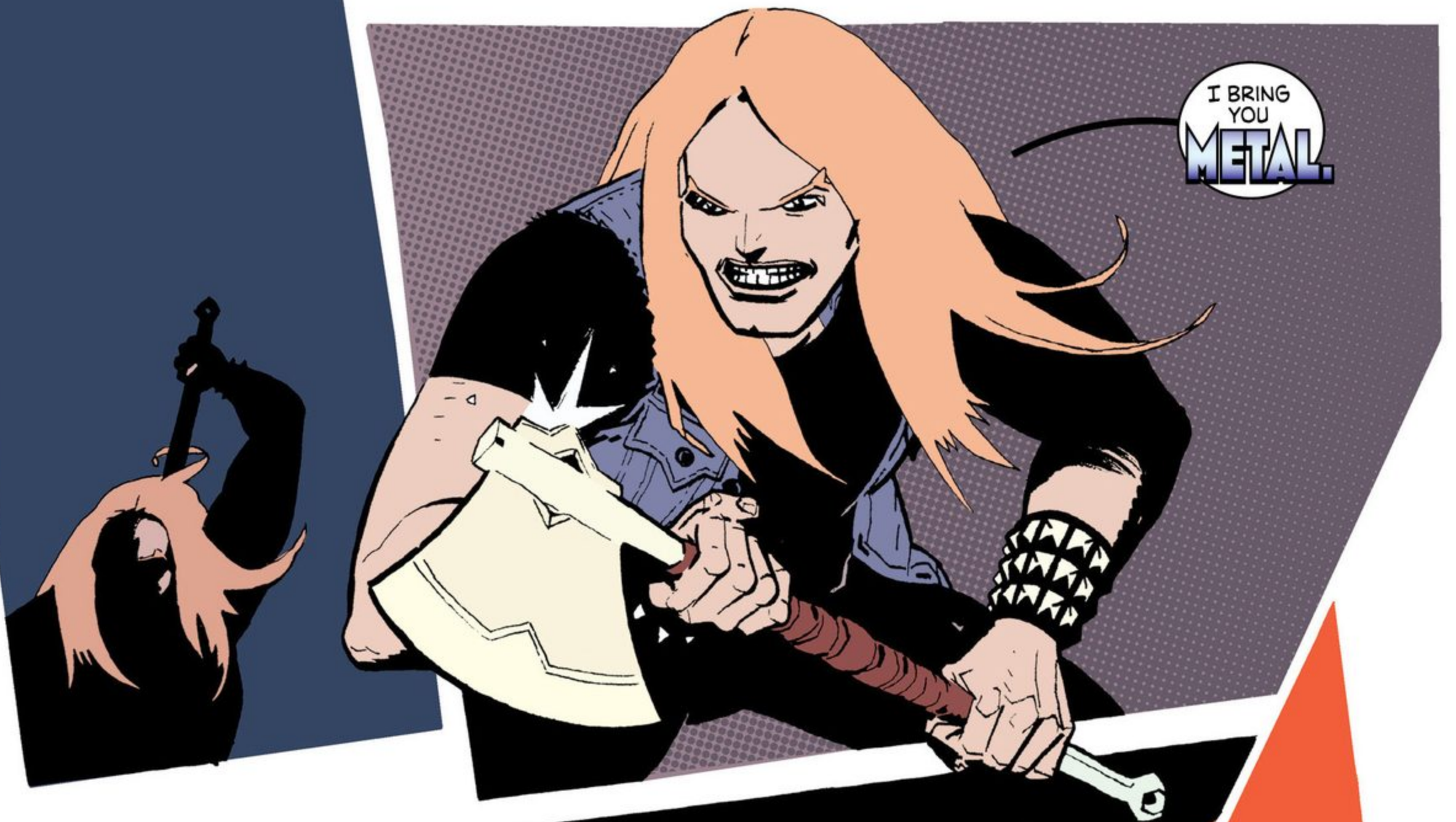
SHITHEAD!

COME BACK!

QUAN?!

"DO NOT BE HONOR'S VICTIM."

WE BRING YOU DEATH.





"--NO ONE WINS!"

ENTIRE BAR FULL OF
SYNDICATE--ALL
LOYAL TO KENJI.

ZENZELE YELLING--
QUAN MAKING A
BREAK FOR THE
BACK ENTRANCE,
ABANDONING HIS
FRIENDS--

HE'LL BE DEAD
BEFORE HE
MAKES THE
STREET.

HIGHLY TRAINED
KILLERS DETERMINED TO
SLAUGHTER ANYONE
I'M FOUND WITH.

TO SEND ME
HOME BROKEN.

ALL OF THEM
READY TO DIE--

GOOD.

I NEEDED
THIS.

TOTAL
PANDEMONIUM--

-- THE FIRST SERENITY
I'VE FELT IN MONTHS.

DROP THE
FUCKING
SWORD.

SOMETHING I
CAN CONTROL.

THE ONE THING I'M
ANY GOOD AT--

KILLING.

THE SYNDICATE
FIGHTS AS A
GROUP.

CAREFUL NOT
TO HURT ONE
ANOTHER.

WHEREAS I CAN STRIKE AT
ANYTHING THAT MOVES.

LET'S
GO!

ZENZELE CAN'T HIDE
HER REACTION.

HER DISGUST AT
WHAT I AM.

THE THING THAT'S GOING TO
GET HER THROUGH THIS.



WHAT
THE *HELL*
IS GOING
ON!?

THEY WORK
FOR MY
BROTHER.



THEY *KNEW*
WE WERE
GOING TO BE
HERE!

IT LOOKS
THAT
WAY.

HOW DID
THEY--



I DON'T
KNOW.

IT
DOESN'T
MATTER
RIGHT
NOW.

THIS IS NO
FUCKING JOKE--
THEY HAVE
ORDERS TO
KILL YOU.



I *WON'T*
LOSE
ANOTHER
PLEDGE.

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
ME?



ARE YOU
WORRIED
ABOUT
HELPING
ME...

...OR HOW
THIS WILL
REFLECT ON
YOU?

NOTHING WORSE THAN
THE SUDDEN REALIZATION
THAT YOU'RE A SELF-
CENTERED ASSHOLE.



JUST--
SHUT
UP!

RUN SOUTH.
PAST GEARY
THERE'S AN
OLD CHURCH.

HIDE
NEAR THE
BASKETBALL
COURT. I'LL
FIND YOU--

YOU WILL
NOT.



SHE
WILL BE
GONE.

CONSUMED BY
THE *KAMIGA*
BROTHERS.

CHILDREN
OF THE
CROCODILE
GOD.

BORN OF
ONE
GOLDEN
EGG.

CHASERS OF
THUNDER.



KEEPERS
OF *FIRE*.



KASH!



VOICE OF
THE *KUROKI*
SPIRIT!



SLAM!



YOU'VE BEEN
AWAY FROM THE
FAMILY *FAR* TOO
LONG, COUSIN
SAYA.

NO.



IN A NEARBY ALLEYWAY, THE KUROKI SYNDICATE MISTAKE HELMUT FOR EASY PREY.

THE LAST MISTAKE MANY WILL EVER MAKE.

THEY SURROUND HIM, PLAYING INTO HIS HAND--ALLOWING HIM TO WINDMILL HIS MIGHTY AXE, CLEAVING HIS WAY THROUGH.

CROM, I HAVE NEVER PRAYED TO YOU BEFORE! I HAVE NO TONGUE FOR IT.

NO ONE, NOT EVEN YOU, WILL REMEMBER IF WE WERE **GOOD** MEN OR **BAD**.

WHY WE FOUGHT, OR WHY WE DIED. ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT I STOOD AGAINST MANY.



THUK!

THAT'S WHAT'S IMPORTANT!

VALOR PLEASES YOU, CROM...

HE HACKS WITH A PRECISE, WELL-TRAINED HAND.

THOK

WITH EACH SWING OF HIS AXE, THEY DIE INSTANTLY, NO TIME TO MAKE ANY SOUND.

STILL HE FACES DOZENS OF TRAINED ASSASSINS--

--AND HE IS ONLY ONE MAN.

AND THEY HAVE BLED HIM.

SPLCH

...SO, GRANT ME ONE REQUEST.

LIGHTS FLASH IN FRONT OF HIS EYES--DARKNESS MOVES IN FROM THE PERIPHERY--

--AND A SOUND IN THE FAR BACKGROUND QUICKLY APPROACHING--

GRANT ME REVENGE!

AND IF YOU DO NOT LISTEN--

--THEN TO
HELL WITH
YOU!

MIGHTY HELMUT SMILES.

THE DICE ROLLED--

--HIS SAVING THROW MADE.

HEY-HO,
DADDY-O.

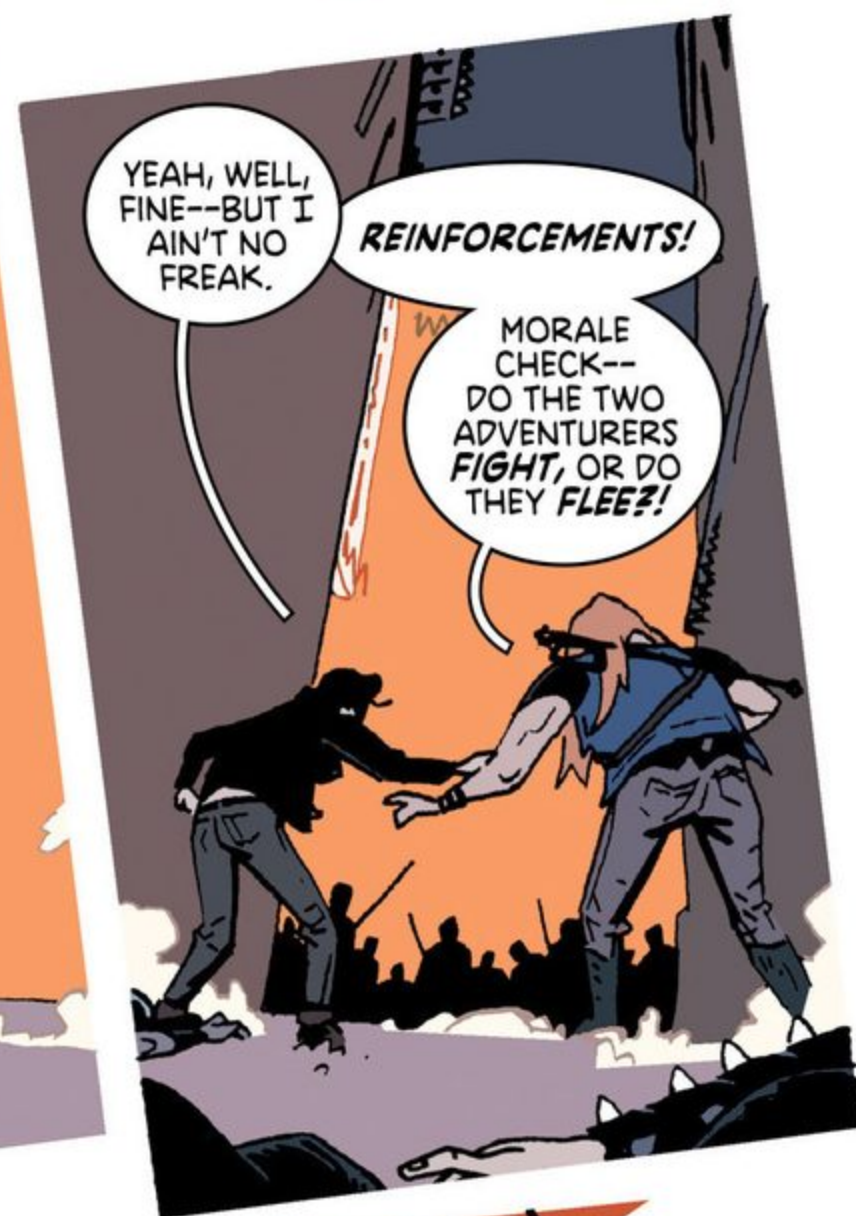
LET'S
GO.

CHNG!

FUMP

CR K

CRASH



"--YOU'RE NOT THE DM
OF ME OUT HERE."

I YELL FOR
ZENZELE TO
RUN--

IT DOESN'T REGISTER.
SHE'S IN SHOCK.

FROZEN,
MUTTERING TO
HERSELF--

--NO
BUSINESS IN
A SCRAP.

THWAK!

KENJI KNOWS
WHY I'VE
COME HERE.

KNOWS WHAT
KILLING MY
PLEDGE MEANS--

KNOWS MY PLANS
WHEN I GRADUATE.

LIKE MY
COUSINS
HERE--

-- KNOWS MY
INTENTIONS BEFORE
I MAKE A MOVE.

PM

CRK

TRAINED TO MAKE
MY LIFE SUCK.

--KEEPING
ME OFF
BALANCE--

--MOVING
CLOSER TO
THE TARGET.

FROZEN
ZENZELE.

THWAK!

EACH USING A
DIFFERENT
TECHNIQUE--

MASTER LIN'S
VOICE--

"ETHICS ONLY SERVE TO
MAKE YOU VULNERABLE."

CRACK

FUCK HIM.

NOT HERE TO
KILL YOU, JUST
HAVE TO
ROUGH YOU
UP--

FUCK THAT.

CRACK

GUARD ZENZELE
AT ALL COST.

NO ONE ELSE DIES
BECAUSE OF ME.

CRASH!

NO ONE.

I WON'T FAIL.

SACRIFICED TOO
MUCH ALREADY.

GET
UP!

RUN!



I'M NOT
RUNNING.



O-OH,
SHIT...



OPEN
UP.

T-THE
W-WINDOW
IT'S BROKEN--



IS
NOW.



YOU
SHOULDN'T
HAVE LIED.



SAYA!
THAT
MAN--!



WE HATE
LIARS.

SHURK?



COUSIN
KENJI IS
RIGHT ABOUT
HER.

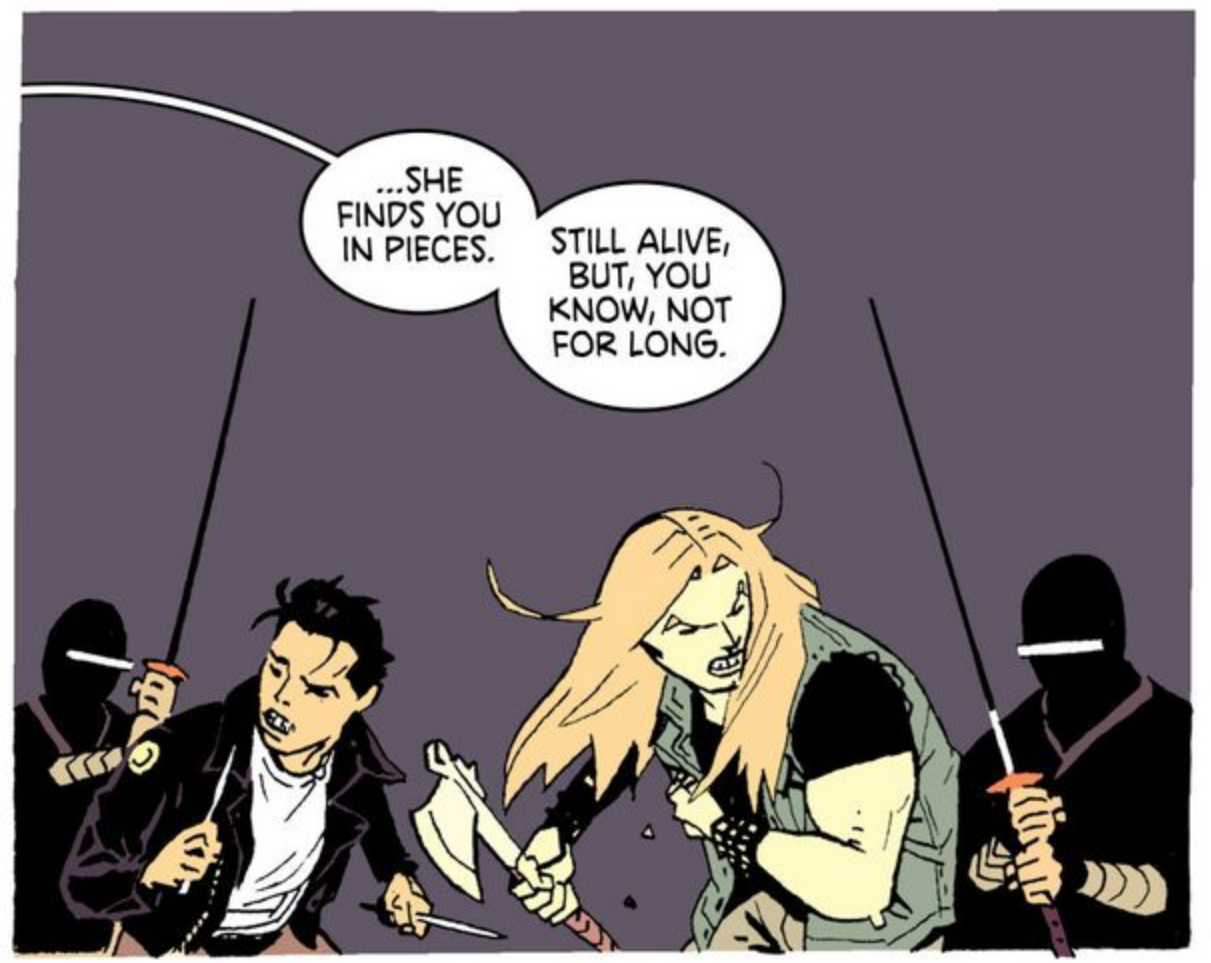


PERHAPS
WE GO
TOO FAR?

MAYBE
SHE SHOULD
HAVE AN
ACCIDENT?

WHY RISK
BRINGING
HER--









GOT YOU!



GO--
GET OUT
OF HERE!



IF WE
LEAVE
YOU--

I'LL MEET
YOU AT THE
SCHOOL--
GO!



THANK
YOU...



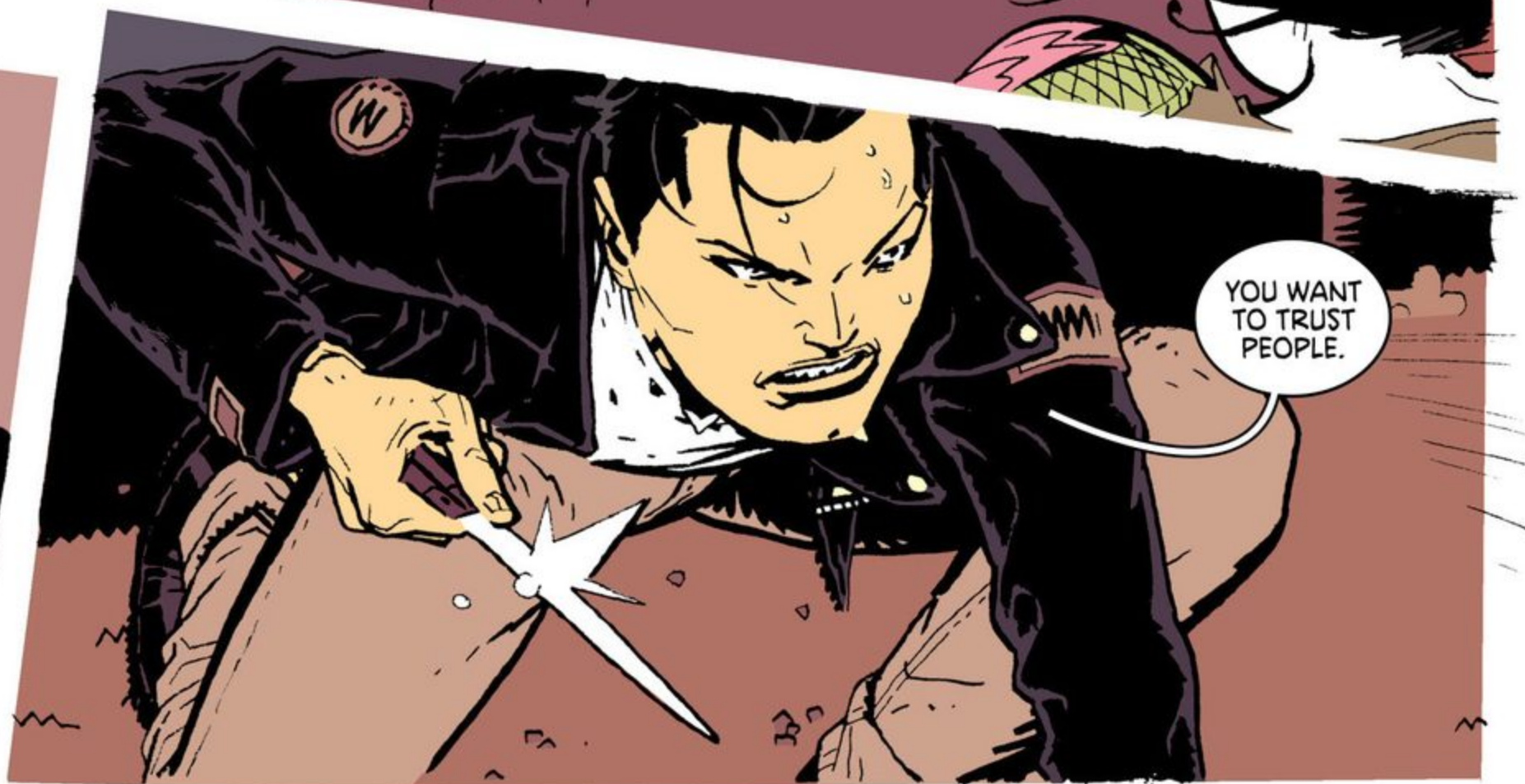
I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
YOUR
BROTHER IS
WORRIED
ABOUT.



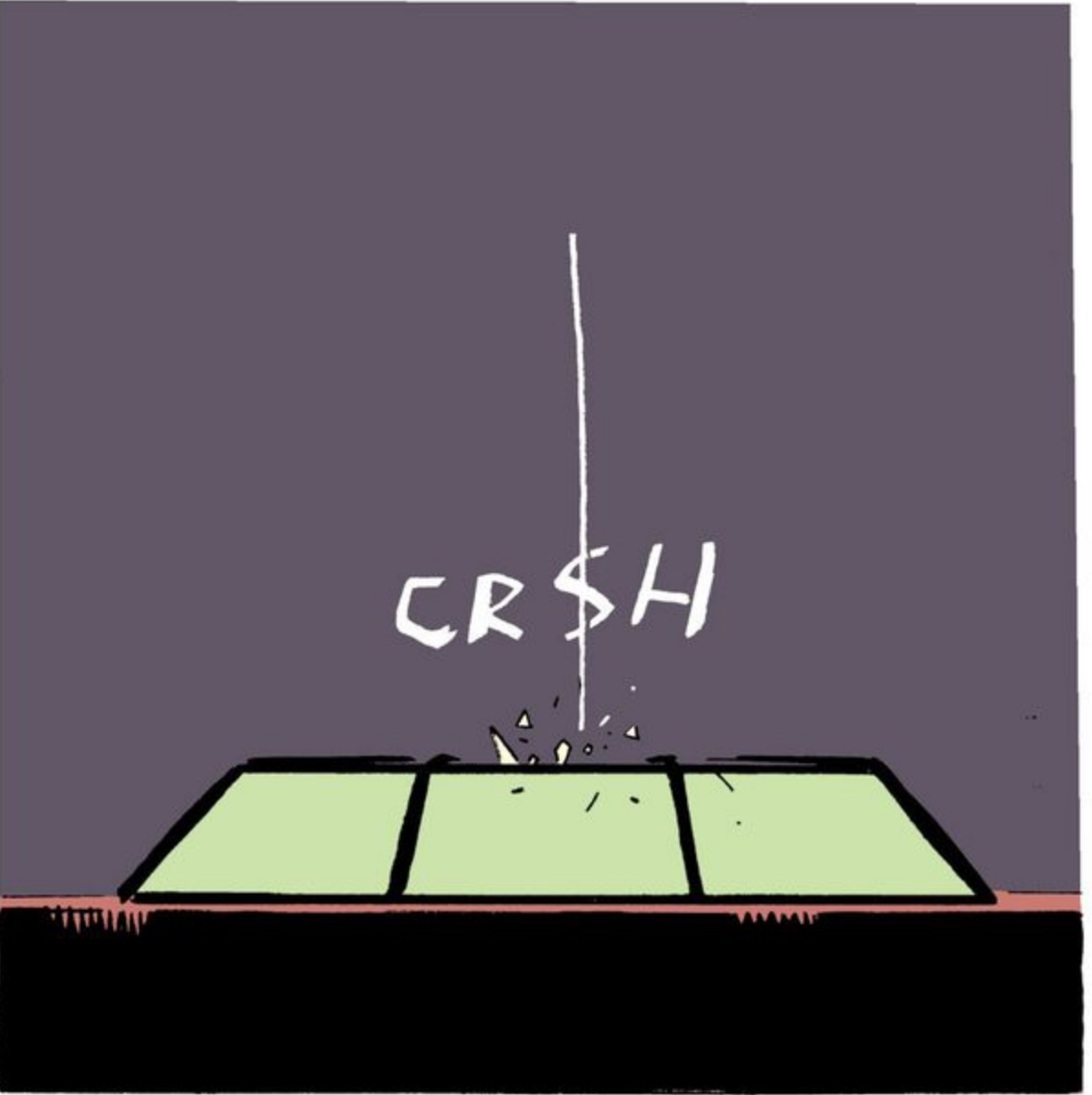
YOU'VE
LEARNED
NOTHING AT
THAT
SHITHOLE
SCHOOL.



SAME
PREDICTABLE
WEAKNESSES.



YOU WANT
TO TRUST
PEOPLE.





NEXT: HOMECOMING!

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

Send comments and questions to
[WriteRemender@gmail.com!](mailto:WriteRemender@gmail.com)
Mark letters "OK to print".

Yikes! Things aren't looking good for Saya. Is she gonna join her old crew in an unmarked grave after all? Can't say she didn't have it coming somehow. But we've seen her snap back from bad spots before; plenty of fight left in the old girl...maybe.

Let's get to some reader mail!

Hello to everyone in the DEADLY CLASS faculty,

Sophomore year is upon us, and I had a few questions. I was wondering if there are other upper classman that Saya and the other students will ever run into? Also, does this school of deadly arts have any alumni reunions? I wonder what the class of '75 would be like, hmm? Is this the only school for deadly assassins or are there others around the world? I would assume there would be other rival schools out there somewhere trying to train the faster, stronger, deadlier assassin. If so, will we ever see a rivalry contest between assassin schools and capturing of mascots hijinks? I am also interested in what some of their other school spirit or traditions might be. How about a class ring induction ceremony like they do in some college or universities? Like the dunking of the class ring in a pitcher of beer like my wife's alma mater. Where you had to chug, and finish the pitcher to get to the ring. FYI, there are school records for fastest chugging of the pitcher. You could maybe have something better suited for your school with records too? Finally, what about a year book? Maybe this can be a stand-alone book that includes answers to these questions or gives us more of an insight into the school charter, activities, clubs, frats, sororities, etc.

On another note related to these time-honored school traditions, I had a question regarding merchandise for fans. Are there any plans for any upcoming merch for Christmas or any other release date? I was thinking maybe some type of baseball cap with their logo or mascot? Perhaps a hoodie, cool sweater, jacket with some type of insignia, motto, or school initials? Maybe some type of cool class ring? Any new t-shirt designs we should be expecting?

Anyway, I'm sure you guys have your hands full with all that you do, but I'm sure there are some fans that would gladly spend their hard-earned money on some cool merch. You guys might even have some fans that might be able to design or give you some cool mock up ideas.

Thanks,
Carlos V.

Hi, Carlos! I like the way you think! Many good questions and ideas. Some of which we've had ourselves!

Kings Dominion is a pretty shadowy and secretive place, as I'm sure you can imagine, not to mention a death mill, so whatever alumni or former students get out of there in one piece may not be too eager to relive those formative years. I mean, I don't know about you, but it's been 15 years since I graduated high school, and I still have anxiety nightmares about not studying and being sent to the principal's cellar basement, which looks like the weirdo dimension from Hellraiser. As for merch, we sadly have not had time to put anything new together for this year, but you can still order DEADLY CLASS t-shirts and hats from your local comic store, or directly from Image.com! Keep your eyes on these back pages though, because if we do cook up some new choochkies for 2017, you'll read about it here first!

Your titles make up 40% of my pull list right now, so I guess you could say I'm a fan. Do you ever do merch related to your books? A set of those minivan family stickers with DEADLY CLASS characters would be amazing.

Paul Salates

Wow! More merch requests. Maybe we should've sent Saya and the gang up to the North Pole to...ahem, "acquire" Santa's workshop and crank out some cool stuff for y'all to enjoy.

But we do have some things you can enjoy now, Paul! If you check online, you'll find we've done a round of DEADLY CLASS and BLACK SCIENCE t-shirts, hats, and some really cool skate decks for those books and TOKYO GHOST as well! And just this month we released a limited edition 11-inch BLACK SCIENCE statue, which you can sneak a peek of on the next page!

We're always up for making more fun things for fans and readers of our books and characters, but that's time (and money) we're not spending on the comics, so it takes us a while to get our ducks in a row. But hearing about it from you all definitely gives us the incentive to get off our butts!

I am new to reading DEADLY CLASS. In all honesty, issue 23 is my first. I had heard talk about the series. Knowing a new class and arc were beginning, I decided to dip my toes in the middle of everything. After reading, I can say issue 23 will not be my last.

But really, I wanted to write a response to the fan upset about the TV adaptation. I'm sure I am not the only one to respond. I just wanted to

offer a fellow 30-something perspective. I think the fear/accusation of selling out is absurd. To me, there is nothing more punk rock than figuring out how to maintain your integrity and dignity, while still being able to provide for yourself, those you care about, and yes... your art as well. I don't see how people continue not to understand: the income helps the artists continue creating the works we get so much out of (as the upset fan admitted to having received from your work).

The normal world WANTS us to give up integrity for the almighty dollar. Finding the balance between money and art that ensures your soul isn't sucked from you while attempting to survive is hard... and the ultimate punk rock move. So, just want to assure you, if you lose that fan because of this TV adaptation... at the very least I am here as a replacement.

Keep up the good work and don't feel anything bad about rewarding that work with some cash. Cheers!

David Anton

Thanks, David! So glad to have you on board, even more so after hearing that #23 was the one that grabbed you. It's the mythical "jumping on" issue that a lot of long-running comic series try to do every now and again, and it can be quite tricky to pull off. But it seems we did something right! We'll do our best to keep you happy and coming back month after month!

As for that letter, we did get a lot of mail for that one, and even more in reply to Rick's answer to the letter. All of that could be spiraled out into a much larger conversation, and one that I always think is worth having: the relationship between art and commerce.

I like your definition of punk rock too, that it's a state of mind and a central ideology rather than scripture and laws chiseled in stone.

I hope we didn't lose that fan because of this, but if we did at least he's sticking to his guns about this issue, and I can respect that. But DEADLY CLASS the comic will keep being DEADLY CLASS the comic, come what may; and what may come is the awesome finale of this, our fifth arc, in DEADLY CLASS #26!

So be sure to grab that next month, and I know we've been hard on our students (and you readers, too) so far, but really nothing will prepare you for next issue! Don't miss it!

Sebastian

TRANSMISSIONS FROM A BASEMENT

Hello, dear readers! It's your faithful comic editor, sending signs of life from the basement! As another year lurches towards its end, we wanted to give you a run-down of all the great comics you can look forward to in the waning days of 2016, and some of the really cool stuff we have planned for 2017. Ready? Here we go!

BLACK SCIENCE

Rick, Matteo, Moreno and Rus are working double time to cut down on the wait between story arcs, and we're gonna do our best to make BLACK SCIENCE a true monthly title! Hot on the heels of our landmark 25th issue, we return in December with a whole new adventure! With Grant McKay imprisoned, the Dimensionauts disbanded and the Pillar in the hands of the terrifying Mr. Block, it's up to Grant's daughter Pia to step up and become the hero her father never could be.

And if you'd like to take home a piece of pulp sci-fi splendor, ask your retailer to order you one of the exclusive BLACK SCIENCE sculptures! They're limited to 500, so hop to it!

DEADLY CLASS

Over at Kings Dominion School for the Deadly Arts, our deadly little Saya kicks off sophomore year by chaperoning a fresh bunch of students. But Saya's still being haunted some ghosts from her past, quite a few of which she MADE dead in the first place.

The current arc runs through issue #26 in January. Just like BLACK SCIENCE, Rick, Wes, Jordan and Rus are working overtime to cut down on gaps between arcs, and we should be back on the stands in March 2017. So, expect more teen assassins, more '80s pop music jams, more pitch-black angst and more DEADLY CLASS in 2017!

SEVEN TO ETERNITY

The smash-hit fantasy series is wrapping its first chapter with issue #4 this December. We're gonna need to take a little break before returning with Chapter 2 in April 2017. This book requires a lot of love and a lot of time to get it just right. But worry not! We'll have the first collection out in February 2017, at the low cost of only \$10! And if you want to see Jerome Opeña's beautiful inks giant-sized, don't miss our SEVEN TO ETERNITY ARTIST'S PROOF EDITION, collecting issues #1-2 in glorious 11x17, out in March!

LOW

Things have been a bit quiet on the LOW front, but we're so happy to announce that the series will be returning in March 2017. Look forward to more great art by Greg Tocchini and Dave McCaig, and more bittersweet sci-fi tragedy, as Rick tells a new chapter of the Caine family's final days on a dying earth.

TOKYO GHOST

And finally, in July 2017 you can relive the technoir love story of Led Dent and Debbie Decay with the TOKYO GHOST COMPLETE EDITION hardcover, which collects all 10 issues of Rick, Sean Murphy and Matt Hollingsworth's cyberpunk samurai glory, covers, variants, sketches, concepts, designs, color studies and original script in one complete package.

To all our readers, we wish a great Thanksgiving, peaceful holidays and a great start into the new year!

Comics await!
SG



BLACK SCIENCE
ISSUE #26



DEADLY CLASS
VOL. 5



SEVEN TO ETERNITY
#4



LOW
ISSUE #16



TOKYO GHOST
HARDCOVER

Prince of Cats™

The post-punk B side of
ROMEO AND JULIET cut with
SWORD OF DOOM. The bastard
son of THE WARRIORS
and ROSENCRANTZ AND
GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD.



FROM THE MIND OF RONALD WIMBERLY

AVAILABLE NOW

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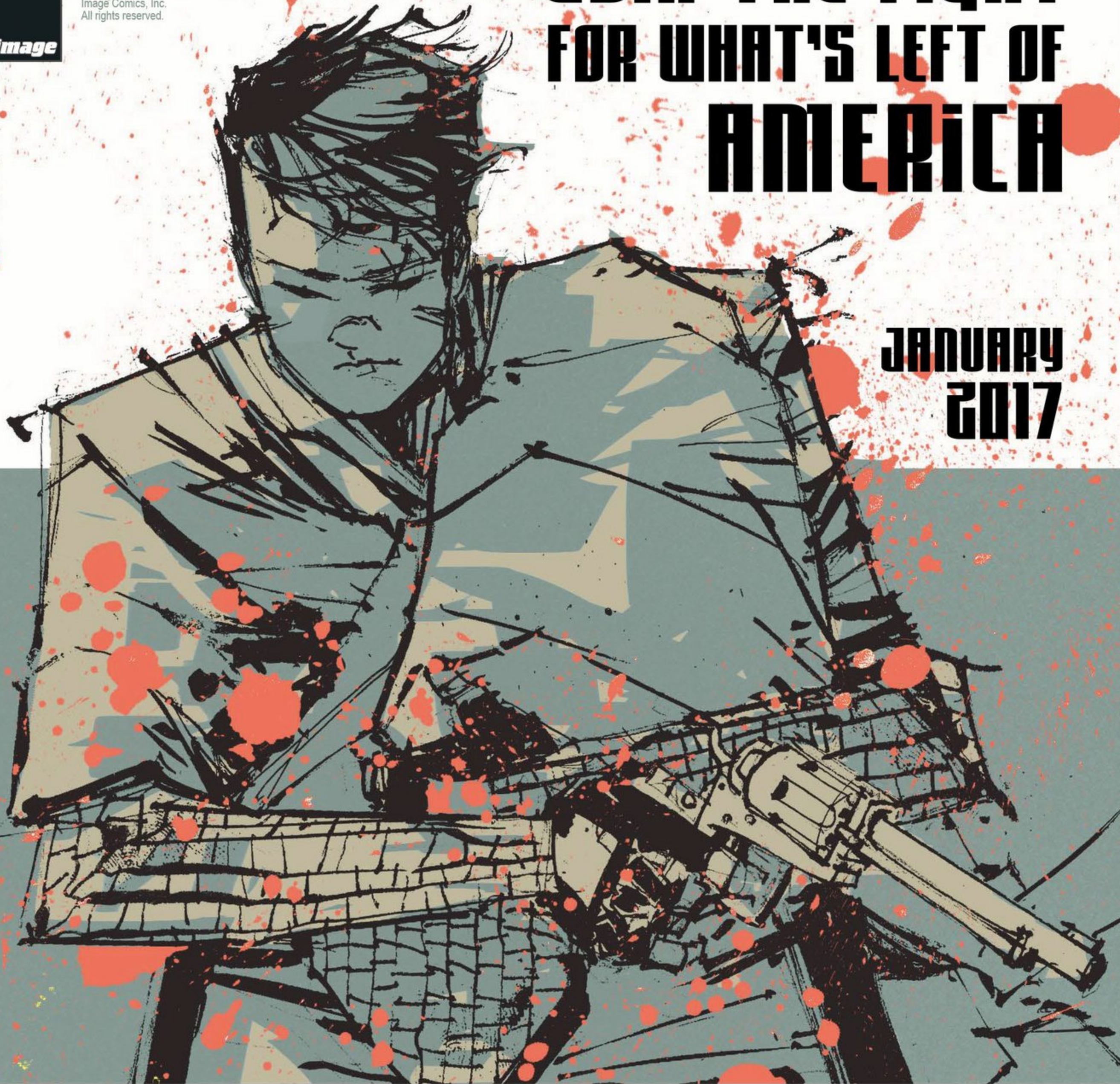


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JOIN THE FIGHT FOR WHAT'S LEFT OF AMERICA

JANUARY
2017



THE

FEW™

SEAN LEWIS

HAYDEN SHERMAN

"A truly stunning debut. 5/5"
THE NERDIST

"A campfire story on speed...a screaming funnel cloud of mythology and monsters...a widescreen Texas sky filled with Kirby Krackle. I can't wait to see where GOD COUNTRY touches down next."
CHRISTOPHER SEBELA

"Donny Cates is a fresh new voice much worth hearing."
MARK WAID

"GOD COUNTRY takes you on a ride from the heavy and desolate into a fantastical reality of living Gods, magical swords, and a mythology shrouded in mystery! I can't wait to read issue 2!"
BABS TARR

"A rip-roaring yarn that entertains right up to it's stellar cliffhanger."
TERRY DODSON

"Joyous, unbridled lunacy."
MICHAEL MORECI

"GOD COUNTRY is the kind of comic book I wanted to make when I was as young and full of piss and sacrilege as Donny Cates is now. It manages to feel timeless, yet so of-the-moment, and it looks gorgeous doing it."
TIM SEELEY

"GOD COUNTRY is the real deal, and God help you if you miss it."
PHIL HESTER

**THE WORD IS OUT
ABOUT**

GOD COUNTRY™

**DONNY CATES
GEOFF SHAW
JASON WORDIE
JOHN J. HILL**



JANUARY 2017

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EISNER AWARD-WINNING WRITER

JASON AARON

AND ARTIST

R.M. GUÉRA

THE GODDAMNED

VOL. I

"HOLD ONTO YOUR BUTTS BECAUSE
THIS COMIC IS DOWNRIGHT AMAZING."

-NERDIST

"GRIPPING, GRITTY AND BLEAK..."

-COMIC BOOK RESOURCES

"SHADES OF R. CRUMB'S
ILLUSTRATED GENESIS AND
DARREN ARONOFSKY'S NOAH."

-PATHEOS.COM

DECEMBER 2016



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NEXT ISSUE



COMING TO YOUR MATE



#YourIMAGE

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